



**US Army Corps
Of Engineers**
Mobile District

Public Affairs Office

Release No. 05-25

Contact:

For Release:
September 2, 2005

Marilyn Phipps 251-690-2506
marilyn.j.phipps@sam.usace.army.mil

World Wide Web: www.sam.usace.army.mil
News Release: www.sam.usace.army.mil/pa/newsrel.htm

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announces permitting guidance for the repair and replacement of serviceable structures damaged by Hurricane Katrina

Mobile, Ala. - People living in Mobile and Baldwin counties in Alabama or in Jackson, Harrison and Hancock counties in Mississippi need to check their original U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit before repairing or replacing serviceable structures destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. Under existing Nationwide Permit Number 3, Corps approval is granted to repair and replace structures that were previously permitted.

Certain repair actions may be allowed, but property owners need to check with the Corps of Engineers Mobile District Regulatory Division at (251) 694-3776 before beginning work such as dredging or filling shoreline and lots; removing vessels or storm debris from wetlands or dredging to restore navigable access to previously authorized marinas. A simple phone call will ensure that the repair and recovery activities qualify for NWP authorization.

Emergency evaluation procedures are set up for permits that are not covered by the NWP program listed above. Property owners should fax such requests to the Mobile District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Division, (251) 690-2660.

The corps will review each permit request to determine if an emergency situation exists. An emergency situation is a condition that will result in a hazard to life or significant loss of property. It can also be an immediate, unforeseen, significant economic hardship that requires a corps permit to take corrective action, but cannot wait for the normal permit evaluation process.

If the corps tentatively determines that the proposed action is an emergency, it will fax a description of the proposed repair to representatives from federal agencies and state agencies

-- more --

2-2-2-2 Corps announces permitting guidance for storm repairs

responsible for water quality certification and coastal zone management. These agencies will review the documents and contact the corps.

The regulatory division will issue a decision after the state and federal agencies have reviewed the documents. Agency coordination for most projects will be completed within 24-48 hours.

-- end --